

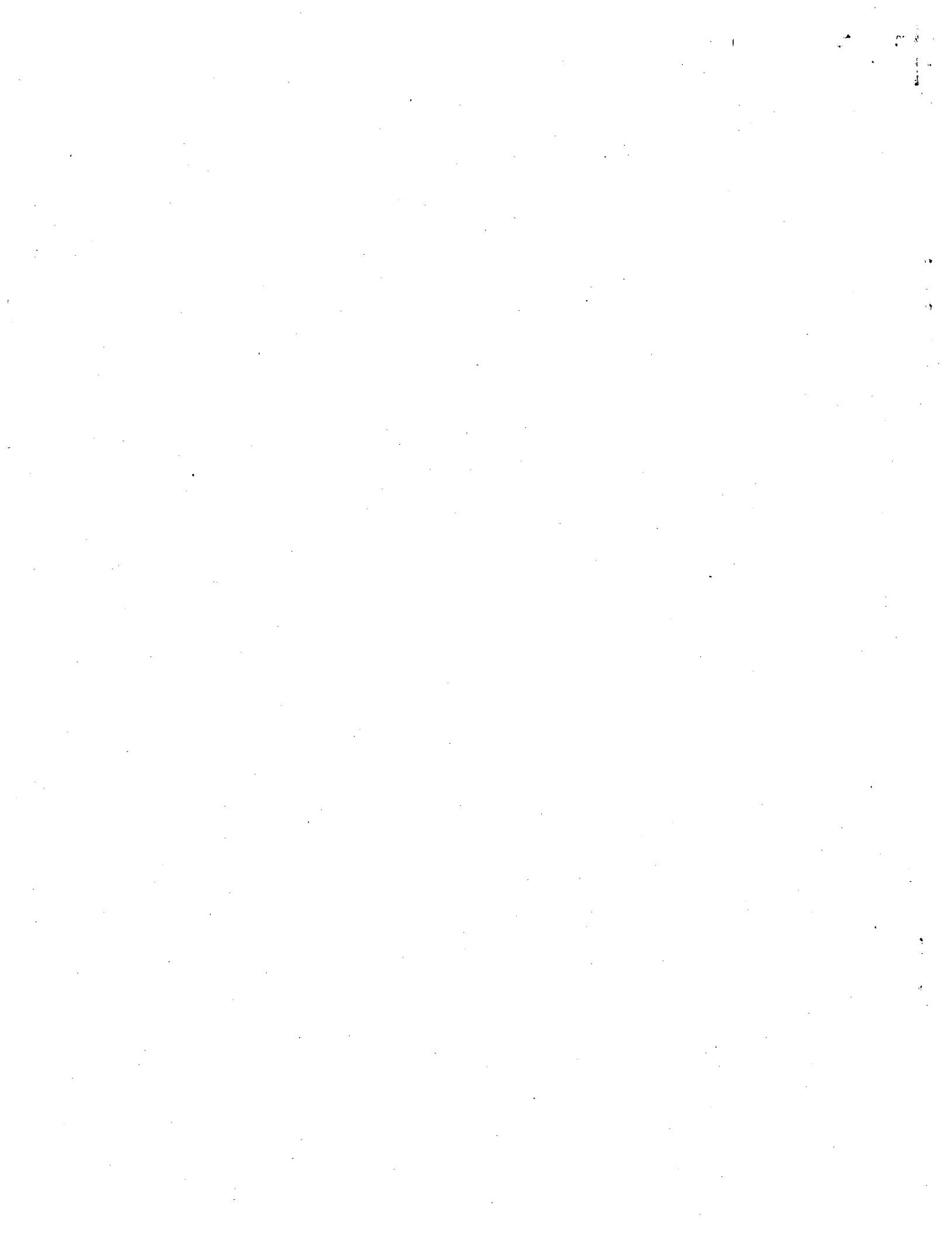


European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 96 30 7033

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)						
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim							
A	<p>FEATURE INTERACTIONS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS III, 11 - 13 October 1995, AMSTERDAM NL, pages 157-172, XP000593331 BOSTRÖM ET AL.: "Feature interaction detection and resolution in the Delphi framework"</p> <p>-----</p>								
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)						
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Place of search</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Date of completion of the search</td> <td style="width: 34%;">Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THE HAGUE</td> <td>27 March 1997</td> <td>Lambley, S</td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	THE HAGUE	27 March 1997	Lambley, S
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THE HAGUE	27 March 1997	Lambley, S							
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention  E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D : document cited in the application  L : document cited for other reasons  .....  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>							
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone  Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A : technological background  O : non-written disclosure  P : intermediate document</p>									



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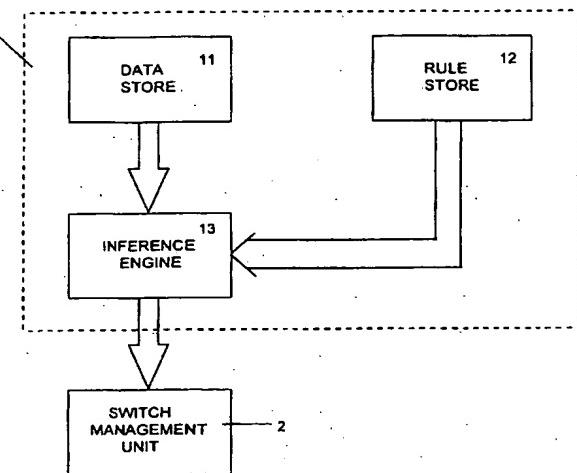
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### (54) Detecting service interactions in a telecommunications network

(57) A system for detecting interaction between different services on a telecommunications network includes a computer expert system. A data store in the expert system is programmed with data which represent attributes of service features. A rule store is programmed with rules which relate feature attributes to interaction behaviours. An inference engine is connected to the data store and to the rule store and processes the data and the rules to detect any interaction between the services.

The data in the data store may be arranged as sets of objects, each object in a set corresponding to a different state transition of the corresponding feature. The different objects may be given sequence numbers corresponding to the time sequence of execution of the feature. At least some of the rules may relate to these sequence numbers.

FIGURE 1



**Description**

The present invention relates to telecommunications networks, and in particular to the detection of undesirable interactions between different services running on a network.

Telecommunications networks are increasingly required to offer customers services in addition to basic call-handling. The development of novel network architectures, such as the IN (intelligent network) architecture, together with developments in computing platforms for telecommunications systems, make it potentially possible to offer customers a large portfolio of additional services to select from. However, as the number of services increases, and as services become available from independent service providers in addition to the network operator, then service feature interaction becomes a serious problem. It is often found that features offered by one service interact in an unwanted manner with features of other services. For example, a voice messaging service, such as BT's CallMinder service, may have as one of its standard features a behaviour such that incoming calls are diverted to the messaging service whenever the called line is busy. Another available service, Call Waiting, handles the same condition, namely the called number being busy, in an entirely different fashion. The Call Waiting service transmits an alert tone to the user and gives the user the option of interrupting the on-going call to speak to the new caller. It can be seen that if a customer wanted to subscribe to both services, then there is conflict between the service features which needs to be resolved. Otherwise, it would be necessary to bar the provisioning of both of these services to a customer, with a consequent loss in utility to the customer, and loss of revenue to the service provider.

Conventionally, during the planning of new services for a telecommunications network, attempts have been made to detect in advance any interaction problems by writing English-language specifications of the service features. Using these specifications a paper "walk through" of the services is then conducted, with the design engineer going step by step through the different services and spotting any interaction problems. This is a time-consuming procedure which can never be completely reliable, leaving the possibility that unforeseen interactions will occur when the service is deployed.

Some attempts have been made previously to automate the detection of interaction during the design phase. For example, International patent application WO95/22231 discloses a method of detecting service interactions which uses formal specifications of the additional services. The algorithm uses information that is specific to the services being tested which needs to be rewritten every time a change is made to one of the service features. Moreover, the approach adopted requires that a formal model should be prepared for every service feature which is handled. The preparation of such formal models is a difficult and time-consuming task requiring a high level of expertise.

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for detecting interaction between services running on a telecommunications network comprising:

a computer expert system including:

- a) a data store programmed with data representing attributes of service features;
- b) a rule store programmed with rules which relate feature attributes to interaction behaviours; and
- c) an inference engine which is connected to the data store and to the rule store and which is arranged to process the data and the rules, thereby detecting any interaction between the services.

The present invention adopts a radically new approach to the detection of service feature interaction, through the use of an expert system. The traditional domain of use of expert systems is for diagnostic classification problems involving data which is essentially static. A well known example is the identification of a particular bacterium from a series of statements about its properties and appearance. In this domain, expert system technology has a proven track record in reproducing and sometimes surpassing human expert performance for the same problem. It is not however been thought possible hitherto to apply such techniques to the problem domain of the present invention. Feature interaction in a telecommunications network is an essentially time-related phenomenon and so on the face of it not suitable for expert system techniques. The present inventors have found however that with an appropriate knowledge representation, expert systems can successfully be used for feature interaction detection. This provides a dramatic reduction in the time required to uncover service interworking problems, coupled with increased flexibility. The separation between the knowledge representation and the inference rules, means that changes or additions to the services can readily be assessed simply by making corresponding changes to the knowledge representation in the data store. In this way, the system is quickly able to detect any problems arising from the new features. By contrast with the prior art systems there is no need to repeat an entire "walk-through" from scratch.

The system of the present invention may run, for example, at a local switch in a telecommunications network to aid the detection and management of interaction problems as they occur. Alternatively, or in addition, the system may be used during the development of a new service to detect any interaction problems prior to the deployment of the service.

In the case of a system used at run-time in the network, then the output of the system may be fed to a control sys-

tem for modifying the behaviour of the network in order to remove or ameliorate the detected interaction problem. The control system may, for example, modify the stored profile for a customer in order to disable one or more service features. A more sophisticated control system might initiate a dialogue with the customer to allow the customer to determine a default behaviour for the network. For example, in the case of the Call Minder or call waiting services, the user might be given the option of selecting the Call Waiting response, that is the transmission of an alert tone, rather than the Call Minder response, that is the transfer of the incoming call to a messaging service.

Preferably the expert system data store includes a plurality of objects including, for each service feature which is represented in the data store, a set of objects corresponding to different respective state transitions of the feature.

The term "object" is used in this document in the sense of object oriented design/programming (OOD/OOP) meth-

odologies.

As discussed in further detail below, the choice of an appropriate structure for organising the data in the data store is critical in maximising the efficiency of the interaction detection system. The inventors have found that the combination of the use of an object-based structure and a state transition representation of the service feature offers significant advantages both in efficiency of operation and in ease of development and modification of the detection system. The use of sets of objects representing different state transitions makes it possible to capture the characteristics of a service feature in a form which is well-adapted for processing by the inference engine.

Preferably each of the said set of state transition objects includes a sequence number corresponding to the position of the respective state transition in the sequence of execution of the feature and at least some of the rules in the rule store reason over the values of the sequence numbers. Preferably the objects are arranged in a hierarchy of superclasses and subclasses of the superclasses, and some of the rules reason over superclasses and others of the rules reason over subclasses.

The use of objects belonging to a hierarchy of classes, combined with rules which operate at different levels of the class hierarchy further increases the flexibility of the system. In particular, it ensures that when a new object is added to the data store, for example as the result of a modification to a service feature, there will already exist rules functioning at a higher level of the hierarchy which are immediately applicable to the new object, so that extensive modification of the rules is not required.

According to a second aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of detecting interaction between services running on a telecommunications network comprising:

- 30 programming a computer expert system with data representing attributes of service features and with rules relating feature attributes to interaction behaviours;
- processing the said data and the said rules in an inference engine and detecting thereby any interaction between the said services.

35 According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of operating a telecommunications network comprising:

- 40 programming a computer expert system with data representing attributes of service features and with rules relating feature attributes to interaction behaviours;
- processing the said data and the said rules in an inference engine and detecting thereby any interaction between the said services; and
- modifying the operation of the network when an interaction is detected.

45 Systems and methods embodying the present invention will now be described in further detail, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

- Figure 1 is a schematic of a system for detecting service feature interaction;
- Figure 2 is a schematic of a network having an IN architecture;
- Figure 3 is a state transition diagram illustrating one example of a service feature;
- 50 Figure 4 is a class diagram showing the structure of the objects in the data store of the system of Figure 1;
- Figure 5 shows the structure of the switch management unit;
- Figure 6 shows a multiprocessor system for implementing the expert system of Figure 1.

55 A system for detecting and managing interactions between services running on a telecommunications network comprises an expert system 1 which in this example is connected to a switch management unit 2 within a service switching point (SSP) 3. As shown in Figure 2, the service switching point forms part of a telecommunications network employing an IN (intelligent network) architecture and including a further SSP 4, a service control point (SCP) 5 and an intelligent peripheral 6. The network, other than in the features described in further detail below, is conventional in

nature. For further details of the IN architecture reference is made to the paper by T W Abernethy & A C Munday, "Intelligent Networks, Standards and Services", BT Technol J, Vol. 13, No. 2, April 1995 and to the European Telecommunications Standards Institute Final Draft PRETS 300374-1, published July 1994, the contents of both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

5 The call control software within the switch management unit is structured as described in the paper by HM Blair, "Attacking Product Complexity: Broadband Call Control for Vision O.N.E" XIV International Switching Symposium, October 25-30 1992. Figure 5 shows the software structured into a chain of connection segments. In this software structure it is the responsibility of the User Transaction Segment (UTS) to invoke feature software and link it into the chain, based on customers' service data. In this example application of the feature interaction expert system, the expert system forms part of the UTS. The expert system gets its input facts from the customer data and/or call progress signaling and the results of processing are used to decide whether to invoke feature software and if so, where in the call chain to link that software.

10 The expert system 1 includes a data store 11, a rule store 12 and an inference engine 13. In this example, the hardware for the expert system comprises a distributed processing system using Pentium microprocessors with access to local RAM and to mass storage devices. The data store 11 and rule store 12 are embodied in the storage devices and in the local RAM, and the inference engine 13 is provided by appropriate programming of the Pentium microprocessors.

15 Figure 6 shows in further detail the platform used in this example to support the expert system. Multiple Pentium CPU's are linked by a local bus to each other, and to the region of RAM. Data stored on a local hard disk is accessed via a SCSI interface. The multiprocessor system is implemented on a motherboard which is linked to other components 20 of the switch by an FDDI optical fibre LAN. In this example, in order to facilitate the use of an object-oriented knowledge representation, the expert system is implemented using an expert systems shell available commercially from Neuron Data Inc. of Mountain View, CA as "NEXPERT OBJECT" (Trade Mark). This is an object-based expert systems implementation tool with facilities for implementation of rules in the C programming language. The implementation of the rules is based on first order predicate logic.

25 The expert system operates by applying rules to facts. The facts may have been input to the expert system either manually by the human user, or by a call control programme. Alternatively, the facts may have been inferred by previous applications of the rules. The evaluation of a rule assigns a truth value to the hypothesis of the rule, which represents some new fact about the domain. As rules may trigger other rules in their predicate actions, a set of rules comprises a network through which simple conclusions may be propagated to arrive at more complex results.

30 It is found to be important that an appropriate form of knowledge representation is used for the facts. This is particularly true for the problem domain of the present invention. As discussed in the introduction above, feature interaction is a characteristically time-related phenomenon, whereas expert systems have traditionally been applied to static diagnostic or classification problems. The preferred implementation of the present invention uses an object-based knowledge representation, in which the objects are derived from state transition models of the service features. A state 35 transition model offers the functionality necessary to describe service features, provided that note is taken of the side effects of the transitions between the various states. It is the side effects that will lead to models becoming interdependent and hence interacting within the network. A telephony feature may make a state transition for a variety of reasons, including response to an event caused by a state transition for some other feature.

40 In the knowledge representation adopted in the present invention, the data store 11 is programmed with objects corresponding to the state transition of a finite state machine representing the behaviour of a telephony feature. As shown in Figure 4, the objects belong to classes which define a template for feature state transition objects.

45 It should be noted that the class does not relate to an instance of the feature acting on a particular call, but describes how the feature will behave depending on its context in a particular call. Rules may then be written concerning behaviour of members of these classes, without reference to actual values of call data.

50 Figure 3 is a state transition diagram representation of a service feature. In this example the service is an account code service, such as BT's chargecard service. Figure 4 is a class diagram showing the objects used to represent such a feature in a system embodying the present invention. Figure 4 uses the OMT diagram conventions set out in "Object Oriented Modeling & Design", Rumbaugh et al., Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-630054-5. As shown in the Figure, the account code service comprises four state transitions, referenced a-d. Within the knowledge base of the expert system, the feature is stored as an instance of the ServiceFeature class, comprising a name "ACCCode" and a set of four Feature Transition objects:

Transition a:

55 Sequence no. - 1

Trigger event -

event type - dialled digits

location - calling party

data - 145

5      Caused event -

event type - announcement

location - calling party

data - character string "A/C no. ?"

10

Transition b:

Sequence no. - 2

15     Trigger event -

event type - mid-call dialled digits

location - calling party

data - e.g. 56789 (valid)

20

Caused event -

event type - announcement

location - calling party

25

data - character string "Enter no. ?"

Transition c:

Sequence no. - 2

30

Trigger event -

event type - dialled digits

location - calling party

35

data - e.g. 34567 (not valid)

Caused event -

event type - clear call

40

location - general

data -

Transition d:

45     Sequence no. - 3

Trigger event -

event type - mid-call dialled digits

50

location - calling party

data - e.g. 01473 644668

Caused event -

55

event type - call event

location - general

data - e.g. 01473 644668

5 In developing the rules programmed in the rule store 12, use was made of a set of high level rules developed for this problem domain. These rules are grouped in terms of key words which collect the rules into concept groupings. The rules were then formalised and decomposed into smaller grains of knowledge to allow their implementation. Rules of small semantic weight use facts input to the experts system to extract simple conclusions. The simple conclusions are then forwarded through the rule network for use by one or more rules at a higher level. These larger semantic weight rules eventually form conclusions which correspond directly to the English language definitions of the top level rules.

10 As information is forwarded through the rule network, some re-use of the lower level rules is achieved. Simple components of knowledge which are useful in the implementation of one high level rule often recur in the conditions of another rule. The choice of rules used in the implementation affects the level of reusability which is achieved. An efficient implementation is arrived at by progressive refinement of the choice of low level rules used. The rule evaluation process moves up through the rule network from data to higher level conclusions. The successful evaluation of a rule often leads to a subset of the feature state transition objects existing within the knowledge base being associated with a conclusion. When this occurs, a class is created dynamically corresponding to the subset of feature states. Those of the higher level rules which make use of the associated hypotheses then generally operate on the subset of feature state transition objects rather than the complete set, thus progressively constraining the scope of this subset and eventually arriving at a smaller one showing some interaction.

15 Tables 2.1-2.5 show examples of the rules from the rule store 12. It can be seen that hypothesis of low semantic weight such as "trigger location compatible" lead to hypothesis with semantic weight corresponding to the original English language rules such as "triggering conflict". Table 2.4 shows a rule operating on the feature transition attribute "sequence number" to infer that a particular service feature is "persistent" (it remains associated with a call after its initial actions when triggered). Table 2.5 shows a rule operating on objects belonging to the super-class "run time event" to infer that a particular service feature initiates a new call as part of its actions.

20 In use, when operation of the inference engine results in the hypothesis of rule 2.3 having the value "TRUE" then this result may be acted on by the switch management unit 2 to modify or inhibit one or more of the features running on the switch, so as to resolve the conflict arising from the feature interaction problem. For the particular call control software architecture illustrated in Figure 5, this involves the User Transaction Segment (UTS) either not invoking the Feature Segement (FS) corresponding to one of the features concerned or modifying the positions in the call chain of the relevant FSs.

30

TABLE 2.1

```
If < |feature_transition| >.trigger_event_location equals "remote"
And < |feature_transition| >.trigger_event_location equals
next_feature_transition.trigger_event_location
Then trigger_locations_compatible
Action Create Object < |feature_transition| > location_compatible-transition|
```

40

TABLE 2.2

```
If trigger_locations_compatible
And < |location__compatible_transition| >.trigger_event_location equals "remote"
And < |location__compatible_transition| >.dest_line_state equals next_feature_transition.
dest_line_state
Then line_transition_compatible
Action Create Object < |location__compatible_transition| > |compatible__transition|
```

55

TABLE 2.3

5           **If** line\_states\_compatible  
And < |compatible\_transition| >.trigger\_event\_type equals  
next\_feature\_transition.trigger\_event\_type  
And < |compatible\_transition| >.local\_line\_state equals  
next\_feature\_transition.local\_state  
10           **Then** triggering\_conflict

15

TABLE 2.4

Rule using the Feature\_transition attribute "Sequence number"  
20           **If** < |service feature| >.< |feature\_transitions| >.sequence\_number.1  
Then persistent feature  
Action Create Object < |service feature| > |persistent\_features|

25

TABLE 2.5

Rule using the "Run time event" class  
30           **If** < |service feature| >.< |run\_time\_event| >.event\_type equals "new call"  
The multiple calls feature  
Action Create Object < |service\_feature| > |multiple\_calls\_features|

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## Appendix A - Example expert system

The following definitions document an expert system embodying the invention. The first section describes the expert system in terms of the class structures of the knowledge base, the static objects in the knowledge base and the rules which act on objects in the knowledge base. The second section is a snap-shot of the objects in the expert system after details of several service features have been added to it. The definitions are printed out from the *Nexpert Object™* tool in the format as documented by the Nexpert object reference manual (January 1991), part number Man-10-400-01.

A basic understanding of object oriented principles as well as expert system basics are assumed. Simple types used are Boolean (B), Integer (I) and String (S).

### *Expert system definition*

#### **Class definitions**

NAME : announce\_history

NAME : cascade\_attach

PROPERTIES :

feature\_name = (S) Unknown

NAME : compatible\_states

PROPERTIES :

local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown

trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

NAME : conflicting\_local\_announcement

NAME : conflicting\_remote\_announcement

NAME : control\_codes

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown

caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown

caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown

caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown

dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown

dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown

feature\_name = (S) Unknown

local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown

location\_attachments = (S) Unknown

rank = (I) Unknown

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5

sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

10

NAME : feature\_states  
SUBCLASSES :  
states\_compatible\_return  
returned\_lsc  
lsc\_out  
working\_feature\_states  
triggering\_conflicts  
control\_codes  
PROPERTIES :

15

cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown

20

NAME : feature\_states.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

25

30

35

NAME : location\_compatible\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown

40

45

NAME : lsc\_out  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown

50

55

5

rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

10

NAME : names\_attached  
PROPERTIES :  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown

15

NAME : old\_value  
PROPERTIES :  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown

20

NAME : possible\_features  
PROPERTIES :  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown

25

30

NAME : returned\_lsc  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

35

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NAME : states\_compatible\_return  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown

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dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

NAME : triggering\_conflicts

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

NAME : working\_feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown  
feature\_name = (S) Unknown  
local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown  
location\_attachments = (S) Unknown  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

Properties definitions

NAME : cascade\_attachments

TYPE : String

NAME : caused\_local\_event  
TYPE : String  
5  
NAME : caused\_remote\_event  
TYPE : String  
10  
NAME : caused\_remote\_event2  
TYPE : String  
15  
NAME : dest\_line1\_state  
TYPE : String  
20  
NAME : dest\_line2\_state  
TYPE : String  
25  
NAME : feature\_name  
TYPE : String  
NAME : local\_line\_state  
TYPE : String  
30  
NAME : location\_attachments  
TYPE : String  
NAME : rank  
TYPE : Integer  
35  
NAME : returnval  
TYPE : Integer  
NAME : sequence\_number  
TYPE : Integer  
40  
NAME : trigger\_event\_location  
TYPE : String  
NAME : trigger\_event\_type  
TYPE : String  
45  
NAME : Value  
TYPE : Special  
**Rules definitions**  
RULE : Rule 29  
If  
there is evidence of incremental\_state\_development  
55

And there is no evidence of cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 And <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
 And (next\_feature\_state.sequence\_number-<feature\_states>.sequence\_number) is precisely equal to 1  
 5 And Execute  
 "RankList"(@ATOMID=<feature\_states>;@STRING="@RANKBY=cascade\_attachments,@RANKSET=rank,@INCREASING  
 ";)  
 And <feature\_states>.rank is precisely equal to 1  
 10 And next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 And next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 And Execute "add\_cascade"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state,<feature\_states>;)  
 Then cascade\_history  
 15 is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 2  
 If  
 20 there is evidence of incremental\_state\_development  
 And there is no evidence of cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 And <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
 And (next\_feature\_state.sequence\_number-<feature\_states>.sequence\_number) is precisely equal to 1  
 And Execute  
 "RankList"(@ATOMID=<feature\_states>;@STRING="@RANKBY=cascade\_attachments,@RANKSET=rank,@INCREASING  
 25 ";)  
 And <feature\_states>.rank is precisely equal to 1  
 And next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 And next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 30 And Execute "add\_cascade"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state,<feature\_states>;)  
 Then cascade\_history  
 is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 1  
 35 If  
 there is evidence of incremental\_state\_development  
 And there is evidence of cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 And <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
 40 And (next\_feature\_state.sequence\_number-<feature\_states>.sequence\_number) is precisely equal to 1  
 And Execute  
 "RankList"(@ATOMID=<feature\_states>;@STRING="@RANKBY=cascade\_attachments,@RANKSET=rank,@INCREASING  
 45 ";)  
 And <feature\_states>.rank is precisely equal to 1  
 And next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 And next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments is not equal to "dummy"  
 And Execute "add\_cascade"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state,<feature\_states>,<||sc\_out>;)  
 Then cascade\_history  
 50 is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 6

1 If  
 5      <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_remote\_event1  
 And <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "remote"  
 And next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And Delete Object |returned\_lsc|  
 And Delete Object |lsc\_out|  
 And Create Object <|working\_feature\_states|> |lsc\_out|  
 10     And Execute  
 "line\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=|lsc\_out|,next\_feature\_state:@STRING="local\_line\_state,dest\_line1\_state";)  
 Then cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 is confirmed.

15 RULE : Rule 5  
 If  
 20      <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_local\_event  
 And <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "remote"  
 And next\_feature\_state.local\_line\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And Delete Object |lsc\_out|  
 And Delete Object |returned\_lsc|  
 And Create Object <|working\_feature\_states|> |lsc\_out|  
 And Execute  
 25     "line\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=|lsc\_out|,next\_feature\_state:@STRING="dest\_line1\_state,local\_line\_state";)  
 Then cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 is confirmed.

30 RULE : Rule 4  
 If  
 35      <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_remote\_event2  
 And <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
 And next\_feature\_state.dest\_line2\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And Delete Object |lsc\_out|  
 And Delete Object |returned\_lsc|  
 And Create Object <|working\_feature\_states|> |lsc\_out|  
 And Execute  
 40     "line\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=|lsc\_out|,next\_feature\_state:@STRING="local\_line\_state,dest\_line2\_state";)  
 Then cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 is confirmed.

45 RULE : Rule 3  
 If  
 50      <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_remote\_event1  
 And <|working\_feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
 And next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And Delete Object |returned\_lsc|  
 And Delete Object |lsc\_out|  
 And Create Object <|working\_feature\_states|> |lsc\_out|

Execute

And  
 "line\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=|!sc\_out,next\_feature\_state;@STRING="local\_line\_state.dest\_line1\_state";)  
 Then cascade\_triggering\_exists  
 5           is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 7  
 If  
 10           there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
              And <feature\_states>.trigger\_event\_type is precisely equal to "control code"  
              And <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to <possible\_features>.feature\_name  
              And <possible\_features>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
              And Create Object <feature\_states> |control\_codes|  
 15           Then control\_code\_history  
              is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 8  
 20           If  
              <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
              And <feature\_states>.sequence\_number is equal to next\_feature\_state.sequence\_number  
              Then duplicate\_state  
              is confirmed.  
 25

RULE : Rule 9  
 If  
 30           <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
              And <feature\_states>.caused\_local\_event is precisely equal to "announcement"  
              And Create Object <feature\_states> |announce\_history|  
              Then history\_built  
              is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 11  
 If  
 35           <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
              And Delete Object |working\_feature\_states|  
 40           And Create Object <<feature\_states>> |working\_feature\_states|  
              Then incremental\_state\_development  
              is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 10  
 If  
 45           <feature\_states>.feature\_name is equal to next\_feature\_state.feature\_name  
              And Delete Object |working\_feature\_states|  
              And Create Object <<feature\_states>> |working\_feature\_states|  
 50           And (<feature\_states>.sequence\_number-next\_feature\_state.sequence\_number) is greater than or equal to 0  
              And Delete Object <feature\_states> |working\_feature\_states|  
              Then incremental\_state\_development

is confirmed.

## 5      RULE : Rule 12

If

there is evidence of trigger\_locations\_compatible  
 And next\_feature\_state.local\_line\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state is not equal to "police"  
 And Execute "feature\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=|location\_compatible\_states|,next\_feature\_state;)

10     Then line\_states\_ok

is confirmed.

## 15     RULE : Rule 15

If

there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
 And <|possible\_features|>.caused\_local\_event is precisely equal to "announcement"  
 And <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name is equal to <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name  
 And <|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "remote"  
 And <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
 And Create Object <|possible\_features|> |conflicting\_local\_announcement|

20     Then local\_announcement\_conflict

is confirmed.

25

## RULE : Rule 14

If

there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
 And <|possible\_features|>.caused\_remote\_event1 is precisely equal to "announcement"  
 And <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name is equal to <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name  
 And <|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
 And <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
 And Create Object <|possible\_features|> |conflicting\_local\_announcement|

35

Then local\_announcement\_conflict

is confirmed.

40

## RULE : Rule 13

If

there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
 And <|possible\_features|>.caused\_remote\_event2 is precisely equal to "announcement"  
 And <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name is equal to <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name  
 And <|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
 And <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
 And Create Object <|possible\_features|> |conflicting\_local\_announcement|

45

Then local\_announcement\_conflict

is confirmed.

50

## RULE : Rule 16

If

55

there is no evidence of incremental\_state\_development  
And Delete Object |working\_feature\_states|  
And Create Object |feature\_states| |working\_feature\_states|

5 Then new\_feature\_development  
is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 17

10 If  
there is evidence of cascade\_history  
And Execute "mv\_length"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments,temp.returnval;)  
And Execute "create\_objs"(@ATOMID=temp.returnval,|names\_attached|;@STRING="attached\_name";)  
15 And Execute "GetMultiValue"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments,<|names\_attached|>.feature\_name;@STRING="@STRAT =SETFWD";)  
And Execute "GetMultiValue"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments,<|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location;)  
20 And <|feature\_states|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
And Create Object <|feature\_states|> |possible\_features|

Then possible\_features\_listed  
is confirmed.

25 RULE : Rule 19

If  
there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
And <|possible\_features|>.caused\_remote\_event2 is precisely equal to "announcement"  
30 And <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name is equal to <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name  
And <|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
And <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
And Create Object <|possible\_features|> |conflicting\_remote\_announcement|

35 Then remote\_announcement\_conflict  
is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 18

If  
there is evidence of possible\_features\_listed  
And <|possible\_features|>.caused\_remote\_event1 is precisely equal to "announcement"  
And <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name is equal to <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name  
And <|names\_attached|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
45 And <|possible\_features|>.feature\_name is equal to <|names\_attached|>.feature\_name  
And Create Object <|possible\_features|> |conflicting\_remote\_announcement|

Then remote\_announcement\_conflict  
is confirmed.

50 RULE : Rule 20

If  
Execute "report"()

Then report\_generated  
is confirmed.

5 RULE : Rule 21  
If  
    Execute "SetMultiValue"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments;@STRING="@ADD=Call Waiting,  
Call Diversion, Call Divert on Busy,@NODUPLICATE,@COMP=STRING");  
10     And Execute "SetMultiValue"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments;@STRING="@ADD=local,  
local, remote,@DUPLICATE,@COMP=STRING");  
      And Execute "add\_cascade"(@ATOMID=next\_feature\_state;@STRING="Call Back When Free, local");  
Then test  
15     is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 22  
If  
    next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state is not equal to "police"  
20     And Execute  
        "line\_states\_compatible"(@ATOMID=feature\_states.next\_feature\_state;@STRING="local\_line\_state,dest\_line1\_state");  
Then test2  
      is confirmed.

25 RULE : Rule 24  
If  
    <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "local"  
      And <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is equal to next\_feature\_state.trigger\_event\_location  
30 Then trigger\_locations\_compatible  
      is confirmed.  
      And Create Object <|feature\_states|> |location\_compatible\_states|

35 RULE : Rule 23  
If  
    <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is precisely equal to "remote"  
      And <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_location is equal to next\_feature\_state.trigger\_event\_location  
40 Then trigger\_locations\_compatible  
      is confirmed.  
      And Create Object <|feature\_states|> |location\_compatible\_states|

45 RULE : Rule 28  
If  
    there is evidence of line\_states\_ok  
      And <|states\_compatible\_return|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.trigger\_event\_type  
      And Create Object <|states\_compatible\_return|> |triggering\_conflicts|  
50 Then triggering\_conflict  
      is confirmed.

RULE : Rule 27

5           If  
               <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_local\_event  
               And <|feature\_states|>.local\_line\_state is equal to next\_feature\_state.local\_line\_state  
               And Create Object <|feature\_states|>|triggering\_conflicts|  
 Then triggering\_conflict  
               is confirmed.

10           RULE : Rule 26

15           If  
               <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_remote\_event1  
               And <|feature\_states|>.dest\_line1\_state is equal to next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state  
               And Create Object <|feature\_states|>|triggering\_conflicts|  
 Then triggering\_conflict  
               is confirmed.

20           RULE : Rule 25

25           If  
               <|feature\_states|>.trigger\_event\_type is equal to next\_feature\_state.caused\_remote\_event2  
               And <|feature\_states|>.dest\_line1\_state is equal to next\_feature\_state.dest\_line1\_state  
               And Create Object <|feature\_states|>|triggering\_conflicts|  
 Then triggering\_conflict  
               is confirmed.

30           List of hypotheses

cascade_history:	Unknown
cascade_triggering_exists:	Unknown
* control_code_history:	Unknown
* duplicate_state:	Unknown
* history_built:	Unknown
incremental_state_development:	Unknown
line_states_ok:	Unknown
* local_announcement_conflict:	Unknown
* new_feature_development:	Unknown
possible_features_listed:	Unknown
* remote_announcement_conflict:	Unknown
* report_generated:	Unknown
* test:	Unknown
* test2:	Unknown
trigger_locations_compatible:	Unknown
* triggering_conflict:	Unknown

**Snap-shot of objects in the expert system after details of several service features have been added**

5

**Objects describing the Call back when free feature**

NAME : CBWF1

CLASSES :

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

15

NAME : CBWF1.cascade\_attachments

caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement

20

NAME : CBWF1.caused\_local\_event

caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

25

NAME : CBWF1.caused\_remote\_event1

caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

30

NAME : CBWF1.caused\_remote\_event2

dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

NAME : CBWF1.dest\_line1\_state

dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

35

NAME : CBWF1.dest\_line2\_state

feature\_name = (S) Call Back When Free

40

NAME : CBWF1.feature\_name

local\_line\_state = (S) idle

NAME : CBWF1.local\_line\_state

location\_attachments = (S) local

45

NAME : CBWF1.location\_attachments

rank = (I) Unknown

sequence\_number = (I) 1

50

NAME : CBWF1.sequence\_number

trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

NAME : CBWF1.trigger\_event\_location

trigger\_event\_type = (S) control\_code

NAME : CBWF1.trigger\_event\_type

55

NAME : CBWF2  
CLASSES :  
5            feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
              cascade\_attachments = (S) Call Diversion,Call Waiting,Call Divert On Busy

NAME : CBWF2.cascade\_attachments  
10            caused\_local\_event = (S) seize

NAME : CBWF2.caused\_local\_event  
              caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) seize  
15            NAME : CBWF2.caused\_remote\_event1  
              caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

NAME : CBWF2.caused\_remote\_event2  
20            dest\_line1\_state = (S) busy

NAME : CBWF2.dest\_line1\_state  
              dest\_line2\_state = (S) any  
25            NAME : CBWF2.dest\_line2\_state  
              feature\_name = (S) Call Back When Free

NAME : CBWF2.feature\_name  
30            local\_line\_state = (S) any

NAME : CBWF2.local\_line\_state  
              location\_attachments = (S) local,local,local  
35

NAME : CBWF2.location\_attachments  
              rank = (I) Unknown  
              sequence\_number = (I) 2

NAME : CBWF2.sequence\_number  
40            trigger\_event\_location = (S) remote

NAME : CBWF2.trigger\_event\_location  
45            trigger\_event\_type = (S) clear

NAME : CBWF2.trigger\_event\_type

50            Objects describing the *Call diversion* feature  
              NAME : CD1

55

CLASSES :  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
5            cascade\_attachments = (S) none  
  
NAME: CD1.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement  
10  
NAME: CD1.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none  
  
NAME: CD1.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none  
15  
NAME: CD1.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any  
20  
NAME: CD1.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any  
  
NAME: CD1.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Diversion  
25  
  
NAME: CD1.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) any  
30  
NAME: CD1.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local  
  
NAME: CD1.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 1  
35  
  
NAME: CD1.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local  
  
NAME: CD1.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code  
40  
  
NAME: CD1.trigger\_event\_type  
  
NAME: CD2  
CLASSES :  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
50            cascade\_attachments = (S) Call Waiting, Call Diversion  
  
55

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NAME : CD2.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) none

5

NAME : CD2.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) seize

10

NAME : CD2.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

NAME : CD2.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

15

NAME : CD2.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

20

NAME : CD2.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Diversion

NAME : CD2.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) any

25

NAME : CD2.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

30

NAME : CD2.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 2

35

NAME : CD2.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

NAME : CD2.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) seize

40

NAME : CD2.trigger\_event\_type

NAME : CD3

45

CLASSES :

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

50

NAME : CD3.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) none

55

NAME : CD3.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) clear  
5

NAME : CD3.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none  
10

NAME : CD3.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) busy  
15

NAME : CD3.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any  
20

NAME : CD3.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Diversion  
25

NAME : CD3.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) any  
30

NAME : CD3.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local  
35

NAME : CD3.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 3  
40

NAME : CD3.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local  
45

NAME : CD3.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) clear  
50

NAME : CD3.trigger\_event\_type  
**Objects describing the Call waiting feature**

NAME : CWI  
CLASSES :  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) none  
55

NAME : CWI.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement  
NAME : CWI.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

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NAME : CW1.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

5

NAME : CW1.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

10

NAME : CW1.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

NAME : CW1.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Waiting

15

NAME : CW1.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) idle

20

NAME : CW1.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

NAME : CW1.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 1

25

NAME : CW1.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

30

NAME : CW1.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code

35

NAME : CW1.trigger\_event\_type

NAME : CW2

CLASSES :

40

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

45

NAME : CW2.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) beep

NAME : CW2.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

50

NAME : CW2.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) announcement

55

NAME : CW2.caused\_remote\_event2  
 dest\_line1\_state = (S) call in progress

5

NAME : CW2.dest\_line1\_state  
 dest\_line2\_state = (S) dialling

10

NAME : CW2.dest\_line2\_state  
 feature\_name = (S) Call Waiting

NAME : CW2.feature\_name  
 local\_line\_state = (S) call in progress

15

NAME : CW2.local\_line\_state  
 location\_attachments = (S) local

NAME : CW2.location\_attachments  
 rank = (I) Unknown  
 sequence\_number = (I) 2

20

NAME : CW2.sequence\_number  
 trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

25

NAME : CW2.trigger\_event\_location  
 trigger\_event\_type = (S) seize

30

NAME : CW2.trigger\_event\_type

NAME : CW3a

CLASSES :

35

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

NAME : CW3a.cascade\_attachments  
 caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement

40

NAME : CW3a.caused\_local\_event  
 caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) clear

45

NAME : CW3a.caused\_remote\_event1  
 caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

NAME : CW3a.caused\_remote\_event2  
 dest\_line1\_state = (S) call in progress

50

NAME : CW3a.dest\_line1\_state

dest\_line2\_state = (S) call in progress

5  
NAME : CW3a.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Waiting

NAME : CW3a.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) call in progress

10  
NAME : CW3a.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

15  
NAME : CW3a.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 3

NAME : CW3a.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

20  
NAME : CW3a.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code

25  
NAME : CW3a.trigger\_event\_type

NAME : CW3b  
CLASSES :

30  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) none

35  
NAME : CW3b.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement

NAME : CW3b.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

40  
NAME : CW3b.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) clear

45  
NAME : CW3b.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) call in progress

NAME : CW3b.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) call in progress

50  
NAME : CW3b.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Waiting

55

NAME : CW3b.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) call in progress

5  
NAME : CW3b.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

10  
NAME : CW3b.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 3

15  
NAME : CW3b.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

NAME : CW3b.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code

20  
NAME : CW3b.trigger\_event\_type

Objects describing the *Call divert on no reply* feature

25  
NAME : DNRI  
CLASSES :  
feature\_states

PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) none

30  
NAME : DNRI.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement

35  
NAME : DNRI.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

NAME : DNRI.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

40  
NAME : DNRI.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

45  
NAME : DNRI.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

50  
NAME : DNRI.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Divert on No Reply

NAME : DNRI.feature\_name

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5 local\_line\_state = (S) idle

10 NAME : DNRI.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

15 NAME : DNRI.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 1

20 NAME : DNRI.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

25 NAME : DNRI.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code

30 NAME : DNRI.trigger\_event\_type

35 NAME : DNR2  
CLASSES :  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) none

40 NAME : DNR2.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) none

45 NAME : DNR2.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) seize

50 NAME : DNR2.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

55 NAME : DNR2.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

60 NAME : DNR2.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

65 NAME : DNR2.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Divert on No Reply

70 NAME : DNR2.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) ringing no reply

75 NAME : DNR2.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local



NAME : DNR3.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

5

NAME : DNR3.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) clear

10

NAME : DNR3.trigger\_event\_type

10

Objects describing the *Call divert on busy* feature

15

NAME : DOB1

CLASSES :

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

20

NAME : DOB1.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) announcement

25

NAME : DOB1.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) none

NAME : DOB1.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

30

NAME : DOB1.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any

35

NAME : DOB1.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

NAME : DOB1.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Divert on Busy

40

NAME : DOB1.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) idle

45

NAME : DOB1.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local

50

NAME : DOB1.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 1

NAME : DOB1.sequence\_number

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trigger\_event\_location = (S) local  
5  
NAME : DOB1.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) control code  
  
NAME : DOB1.trigger\_event\_type  
  
10  
NAME : DOB2  
CLASSES :  
feature\_states  
PROPERTIES :  
cascade\_attachments = (S) none  
15  
  
NAME : DOB2.cascade\_attachments  
caused\_local\_event = (S) none  
  
20  
NAME : DOB2.caused\_local\_event  
caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) seize  
  
NAME : DOB2.caused\_remote\_event1  
caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none  
25  
  
NAME : DOB2.caused\_remote\_event2  
dest\_line1\_state = (S) any  
  
30  
NAME : DOB2.dest\_line1\_state  
dest\_line2\_state = (S) any  
  
NAME : DOB2.dest\_line2\_state  
feature\_name = (S) Call Divert on Busy  
35  
  
NAME : DOB2.feature\_name  
local\_line\_state = (S) busy  
  
40  
NAME : DOB2.local\_line\_state  
location\_attachments = (S) local  
  
NAME : DOB2.location\_attachments  
rank = (I) Unknown  
sequence\_number = (I) 2  
45  
  
NAME : DOB2.sequence\_number  
trigger\_event\_location = (S) local  
50  
  
NAME : DOB2.trigger\_event\_location  
trigger\_event\_type = (S) seize  
  
55

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NAME : DOB2.trigger\_event\_type

5

NAME : DOB3

CLASSES :

feature\_states

PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

10

NAME : DOB3.cascade\_attachments

caused\_local\_event = (S) none

15

NAME : DOB3.caused\_local\_event

caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) clear

20

NAME : DOB3.caused\_remote\_event1

caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) none

NAME : DOB3.caused\_remote\_event2

dest\_line1\_state = (S) busy

25

NAME : DOB3.dest\_line1\_state

dest\_line2\_state = (S) any

30

NAME : DOB3.dest\_line2\_state

feature\_name = (S) Call Divert on Busy

35

NAME : DOB3.feature\_name

local\_line\_state = (S) any

NAME : DOB3.local\_line\_state

location\_attachments = (S) local

40

NAME : DOB3.location\_attachments

rank = (I) Unknown

sequence\_number = (I) 3

45

NAME : DOB3.sequence\_number

trigger\_event\_location = (S) local

50

NAME : DOB3.trigger\_event\_location

trigger\_event\_type = (S) clear

NAME : DOB3.trigger\_event\_type

55

Objects describing a new service feature

NAME : next\_feature\_state

5 PROPERTIES :

cascade\_attachments = (S) none

10 NAME : next\_feature\_state.cascade\_attachments

caused\_local\_event = (S) Unknown

caused\_remote\_event1 = (S) Unknown

caused\_remote\_event2 = (S) Unknown

dest\_line1\_state = (S) Unknown

dest\_line2\_state = (S) Unknown

feature\_name = (S) Unknown

local\_line\_state = (S) Unknown

location\_attachments = (S) local

15 20 NAME : next\_feature\_state.location\_attachments

sequence\_number = (I) Unknown

trigger\_event\_location = (S) Unknown

trigger\_event\_type = (S) Unknown

25

30

A temporary object

NAME : temp

PROPERTIES :

returnval = (I) Unknown

35

40 Claims

1. A system for detecting interaction between services running on a telecommunications network comprising:

a computer expert system including:

45

- a) a data store programmed with data representing attributes of service features;
- b) a rule store programmed with rules which relate feature attributes to interaction behaviours; and
- c) an inference engine which is connected to the data store and to the rule store and which is arranged to process the data and the rules, thereby detecting any interaction between the services.

50

2. A system according to claim 1, in which the data store includes a plurality of objects including, for each feature which is represented in the data store, a set of objects corresponding to different respective state transitions of the feature.

55

3. A system according to claim 2, in which each of the said set of objects includes a sequence number corresponding to the position of the respective state transition in the sequence of execution of the feature and at least some of the rules in the rule store reason over the values of the sequence numbers.

4. A system according to any claim 2 or 3, in which the objects are arranged in a hierarchy of superclasses and subclasses of the superclasses, and some of the rules reason over superclasses and others of the rules reason over subclasses.
5. A telecommunications network including a system according to any one of claims 1 to 4.
6. A method of detecting interaction between services running on a telecommunications network comprising:
  - 10 programming a computer expert system including an inference engine with data representing attributes of service features and with rules relating feature attributes to interaction behaviours; and
7. A method of operating a telecommunications network comprising:
  - 15 programming a computer expert system with data representing attributes of service features and with rules relating feature attributes to interaction behaviours;
  - processing the said data and the said rules in an inference engine and detecting thereby any interaction between the said services; and
  - modifying the operation of the network when any interaction is detected.
- 20 8. A method according to claim 6 or 7, in which the said data are stored as a plurality of objects which include, for each feature which is represented, a set of objects corresponding to different respective state transition of the feature.
9. A method according to claim 8, including storing a sequence number for each of the objects in the said set, where the sequence number corresponds to the position of the respective state transition in the sequence of execution of the feature and in which at least some of the rules reason over the values of the sequence numbers.
- 25 10. A method according to claim 8 or 9, in which the objects are arranged in a hierarchy of superclasses and subclasses of the superclasses, and some of the rules reason over superclasses and others of the rules reason over subclasses.

30

35

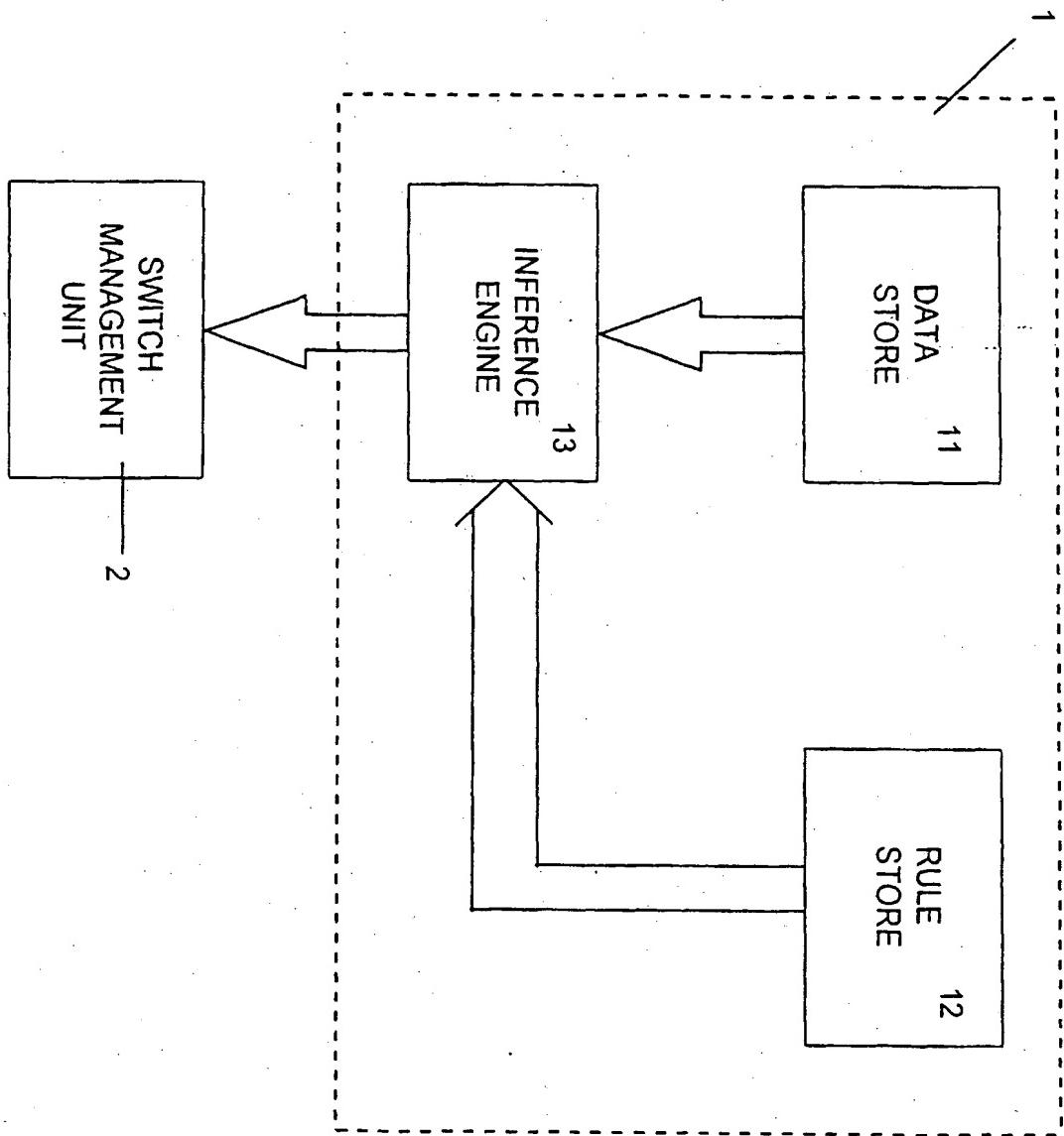
40

45

50

55

FIGURE 1



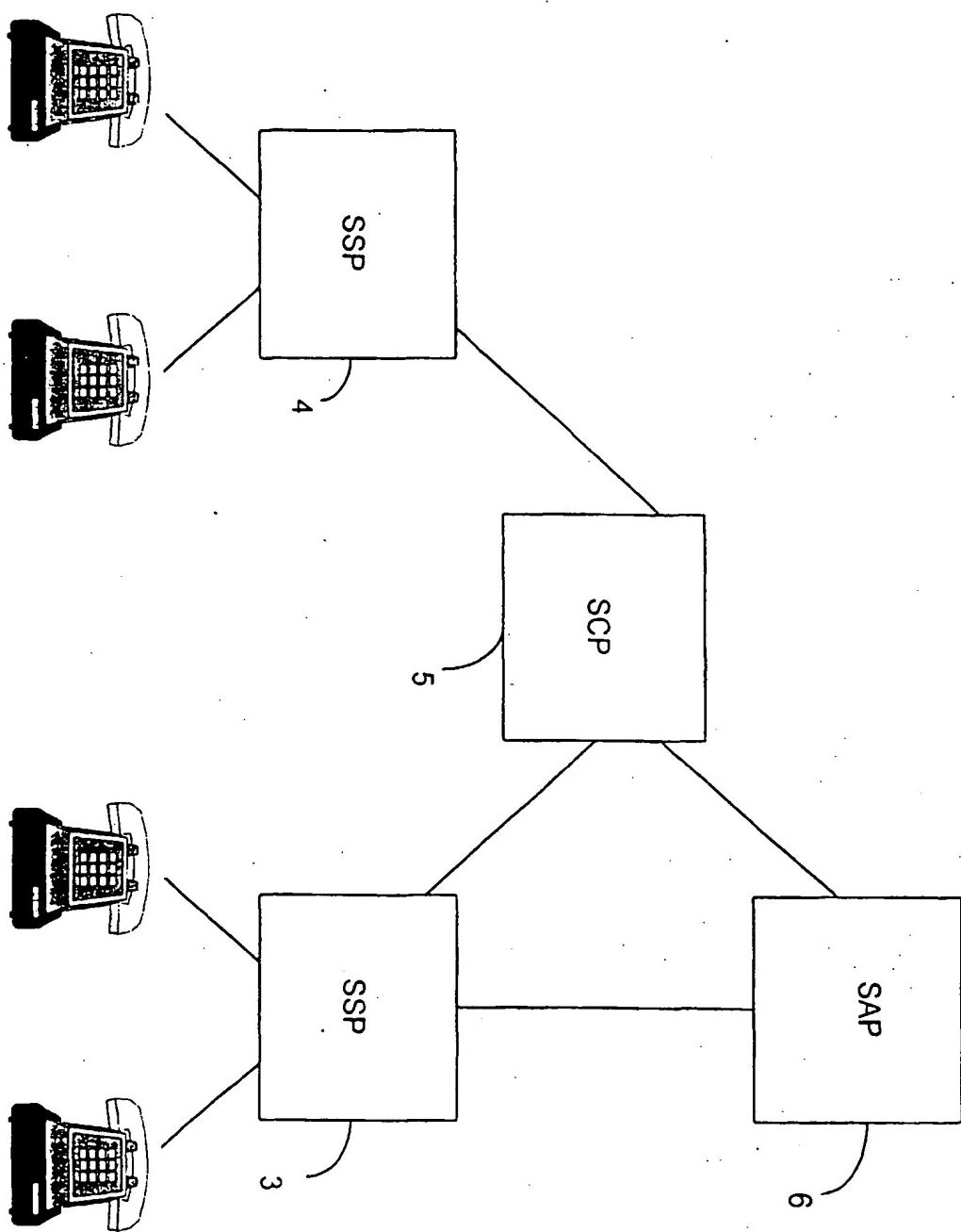


FIGURE 2

FIGURE 3

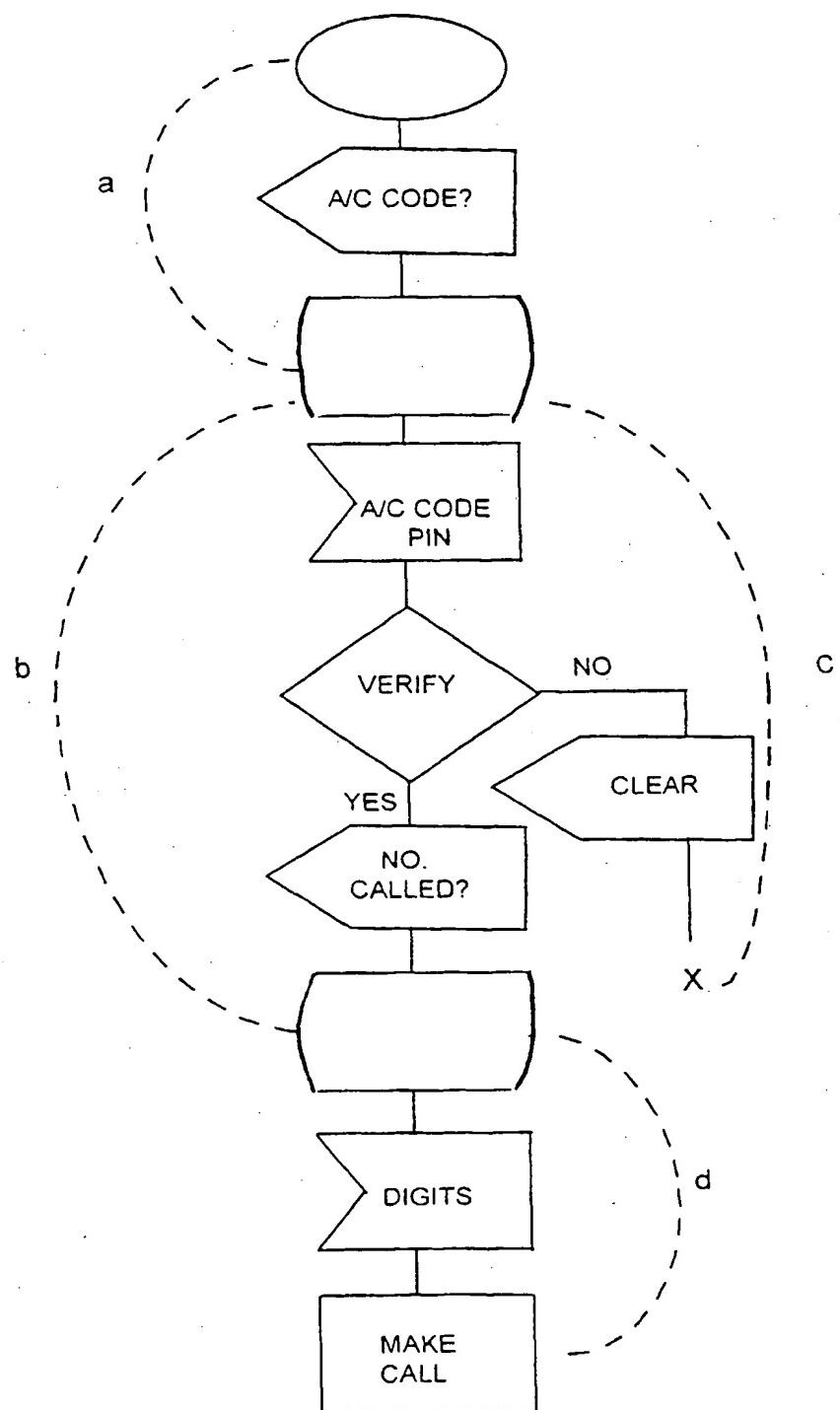
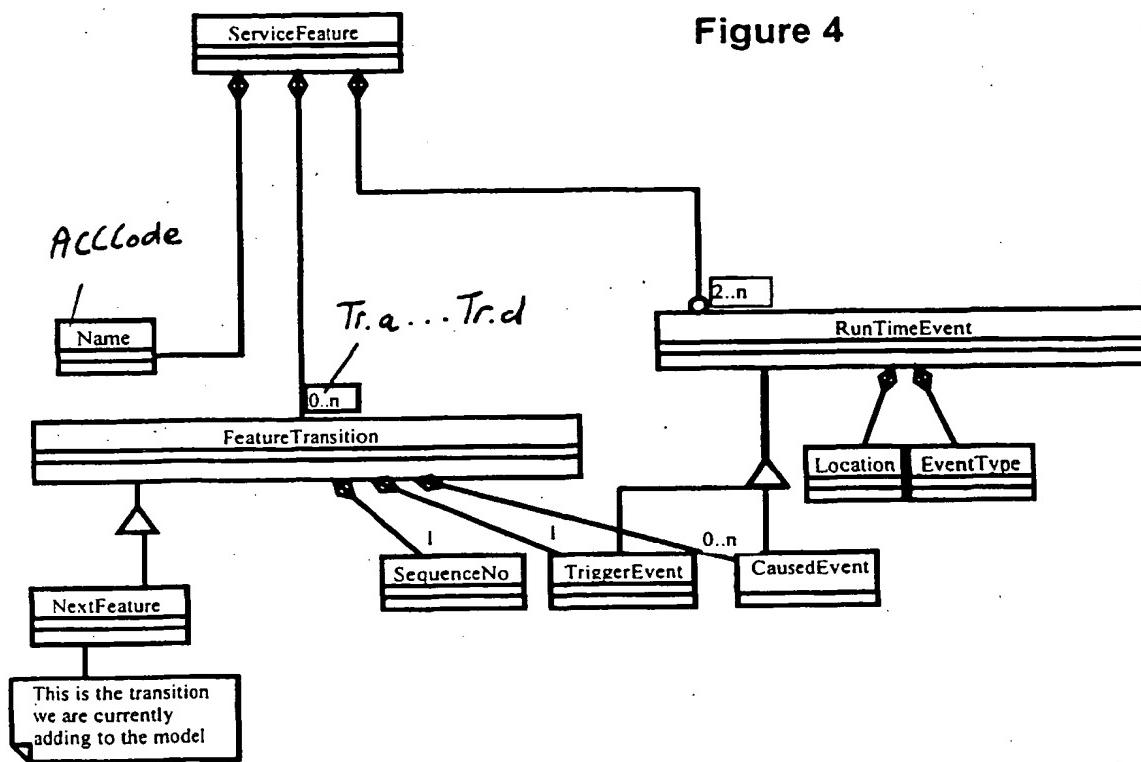


Figure 4



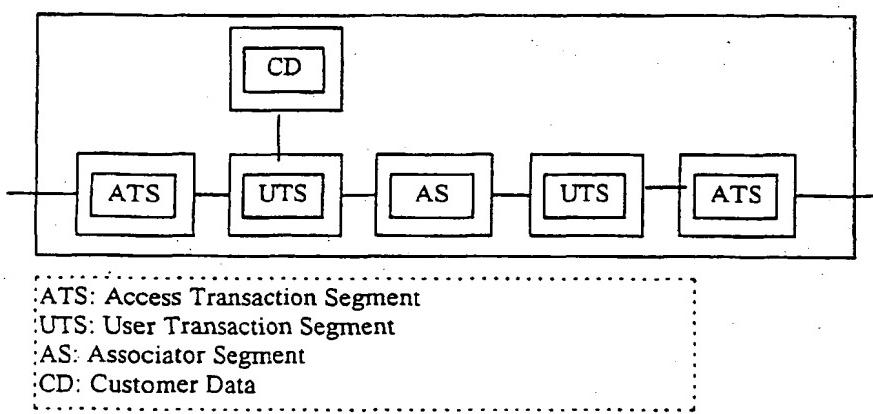
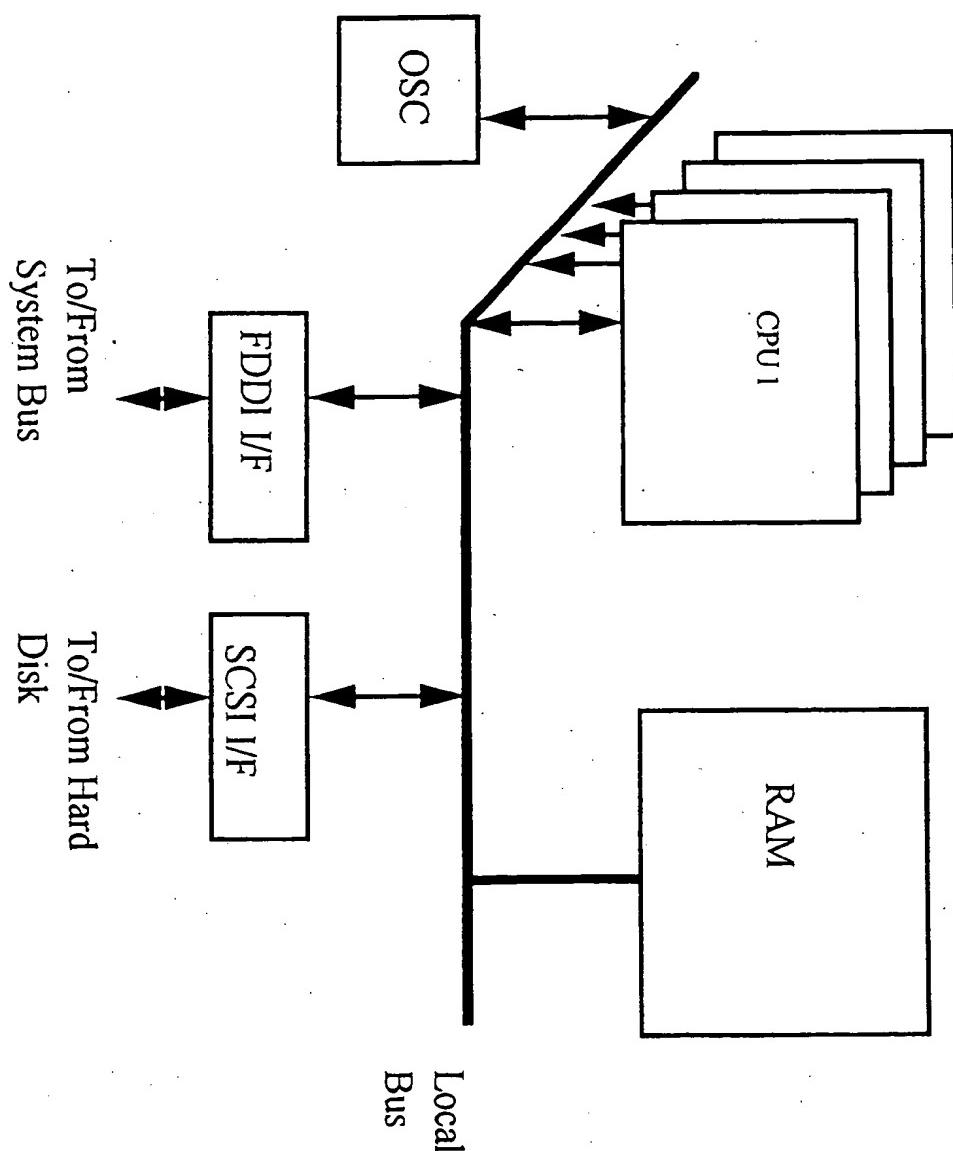


Figure 5

Figure 6





European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 96 30 7033

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS, vol. 3, 23 - 26 May 1993, GENEVA CH, pages 1553-1557, XP000448395 BROTHERS ET AL.: "Feature interaction detection" * page 1555, left-hand column, paragraph 3 - page 1556, left-hand column, paragraph 3; figures 2,3 *	1,2,5-8	H04Q3/00
A	IEICE TRANSACTIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS, vol. E75-B, no. 10, October 1992, TOKYO JP, pages 986-997, XP000324946 HARADA ET AL.: "A conflict detection support method for telecommunication service descriptions" * page 987, right-hand column, line 12 - page 989, left-hand column, last line *	1,2,5-8	
A	WO 93 18606 A (BELL ATLANTIC NETWORK SERVICES) * page 62, line 13 - page 63, line 15 *	1,5-7	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
A	FEATURE INTERACTIONS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, 8 - 10 May 1994, AMSTERDAM NL, pages 36-59, XP000593307 BRAITHWAITE ET AL.: "Towards automated detection of feature interactions" * page 47, line 31 - page 49, line 21 *	1,2,5-8	H04Q
		-/-	
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	27 March 1997	Lambley, S	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	